

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 15860 281607Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

ACDA-19 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0404

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

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SUBJECT: SOARES STATEMENT ON PORTUGUESE USE OF NATO

ARMS IN AFRICA

REF: A) LUANDA 494 (NOTAL); B) LISBON 2630;

C) USNATO 3543 (NOTAL)

1. JUNE 21 EDITION OF LE MONDE CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH

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PAGE 02 PARIS 15860 281607Z

PORTUGUESE FONMIN SOARES IN WHICH HE IS QUOTED AS

SAYING THE FOLLOWING: "FOR A LONG TIME I HAVE PUBLICLY CRITICIZED NATO AND SUSPECTED IT OF HAVING GREATLY HELPED THE FORMER REGIME. A NUMBER OF ATLANTIC ALLIANCE COUNTRIES, THE US, GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, ITALY, HAVE SUPPLIED ARMS TO SALAZAR'S PORTUGAL. IN PRINCIPLE, THESE ARMS SHOULD NOT BE USED IN THE ANTI-GUERRILLA STRUGGLE, BUT THE LISBON GOVERNMENT CIRCUMVENTED THE RULES AND THE ARMS FOUND THEIR WAY TO AFRICA.

2. "HOWEVER, THERE MUST BE A SECURITY SYSTEM FOR THE WEST, JUST AS THERE ARE THE WARSAW PACT AND MILITARY ALLIANCES IN THE EAST. WE ARE A PART OF THE WEST AND ARE THUS FAITHFUL TO THE ALLIANCE . . ." STONE

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